« स्तरो को विशेषतौर पर नियंत्रित करने के कार्य को बहुत महत्व देती हैं। सरकार ने उपभोक्ताओं को उचित मूल्यों पर दालों की उपलभ्यता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अनेक कदम उठाए हैं:-

(क) दालों के आयात को खुले सामान्य लाइसेंस के तहत लाया गया है?

(ख) दालों के आयात पर सीमा शुल्क का 10% से घटा कर 5% कर दिया गया है।

(ग) देशीय बाजार में आयातित दालों की प्रभावी उपलभ्सता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए, खाने योग्य तिलहन, खाने योग्य तेल (भंडारण नियंत्रण) आदेश, 1977 में उल्लिखित स्टाक सीमाओं को आयातित दालों के लिए हटा दिया गया हैं।

(घ) देश के सभी भागों में दालों के थोक तथा खुदरा मूल्यों के उतार-चढ़ाव पर निरन्तर नजर रखी जा रही है, ताकि सरकार दालों की उपलभ्यता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए उपयुक्त उपाय कर सकें।

Steps to Ensure Supply of Essential Commodities

60. SHRI GOVIND RAM MIRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any fresh steps for the proper supply of certain essential commodities which are in limited stock or are not easily available; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk alio ition of six selected essential commodities, namely, rice, wheat, sugar, kerosene, imported edible oil and soft' CIL coke to States/UTs for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS). The Central Government reviews the progress of implementation of PDS regularly with States/UTs in various fora to improve the functioning. AT present, there is a gap between the demand and supply of essential commodities like edible oils and pulses. The import of both these commodities has been placed under Open General Licence and their import duties have also been reduced significantly. The stock limits of these imported commodities have been removed from the purview of the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977. The commodities which are found to be in short supply at a particular point of time due to a supply-demand imbalance, are also imported in the most desired quantities to augment their supplies in the local markets.

There is not likely to be any shortage of sugar this year as the production of sugar within the country is likely to exceed 143 lakh metric tonnes.

Apprentices Act, 1961

61. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any roposal under Government's consideration to amend the Apprentices Act, 1961 to simplify procedures for drawing up contracts and bringing flexibility in the training programmes and trades selected by the employers;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether the present system imposes heavy financial burden on both, Central and State Governments for providing basic training centres as well as sharing of other costs relating to payment of stipend, etc.;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) what steps Government propose to taken in the matter?